

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Claims 1-46 and 53-60 were pending previously. Claims 2, 17, 22, 26, 47-52, 54, and 59-60 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants note that the Examiner inadvertently failed to list the newly-cited Tanaka reference on a PTO 892 form. Applicants courteously request that this be done.

Claims 1-6, 11, 15, 17, 18, 22, 33-46, 53-55, 59 and 60 were rejected as anticipated by JP '993. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. Claim 1 is directed to the production of a Group III nitride single crystal, with the Group III element further being defined as Ga. The method requires the crystallization of an aeriform substance obtained from a material for the Group III nitride crystal. The aeriform substance further is required to include GaHx. The reference is directed to the formation of crystals through the nitrogen-containing substance GaNxHy. The reference does not disclose a method using GaHx and therefore there is no anticipation of claim 1 and its dependents. These materials differ significantly from the GaNxHy materials that are the focus of the reference in terms of crystal-formation reactions and activation energy, and therefore the invention of claim 1 is not suggested by the reference. The rejection should be withdrawn.

Claims 56-58 were rejected as anticipated by Tanaka. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. Tanaka is directed to methods for materials that contain Al, and neither discloses nor suggests materials that contain Ga as required by claim 56. Therefore this rejection should be withdrawn.

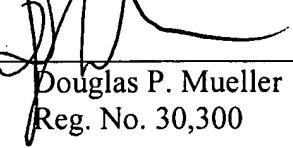
Claims 7-10, 12-14, 16, 19-21 and 23-32 were rejected as obvious over JP '993 in view of Hunter. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. Hunter does not suggest a method using GaHx, and therefore does not remedy the deficiencies of JP '993 noted above. Moreover, Hunter is not even directed to Ga-containing materials, but like Tanaka is directed to Al-containing materials. Therefore there is no basis in the present record supporting the combination of the references. The rejection should be withdrawn.

In view of the above, Applicants request reconsideration of the application in the form of a Notice of Allowance.

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